



Environment everyone's concern

Week of 13 June 2007 – 18 June 2007

Airmen and civilians alike responsible for Air Force's environmental role

The Air Force has long been a champion of environmental responsibility. We're the nation's top customer when it comes to buying green power, that is, energy that comes from environmentally-friendly sources.

Using renewable energy sources isn't just good for the planet, however. It also reduces our dependence on foreign sources of oil and petroleum.

Renewable energy sources produce little to no net greenhouse gas emissions and are cleaner for the environment. Green power helps accelerate the development of new, domestic renewable energy generation facilities nationwide.

Airmen should always look for ways they can reduce the amount of energy they use. A few energy saving examples are carpooling when available, turn off lights when you leave a room and turn your computer monitor off when leaving for the day.

The Air Force was named the winners of several 2006 Department of Defense-level environmental awards: Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn., won the large installation Natural Resources Conservation Award; Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., won the industrial installation Environmental Quality Award; Dover Air Force Base, Del., won the installation Environmental Restoration Award; and Gary M. O'Donnell of Hickam AFB, HI, won the Cultural Resources Management Individual Excellence award.

In addition to these awards:

- Two bases, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, and Fairchild AFB, Wash., receive 100 percent of their energy from wind or other renewable energy power sources.
- Low-speed vehicles help the Air Force save on fuel costs using those monies more efficiently.
- C-17 Globemaster III aircraft will soon begin certifying engines to operate using synthetic fuel
- By the end of next year, the Air Force will operate the largest solar farm in the world at Nellis AFB, Nev.

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Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.